

Noyes Service Center
(Culf Station)
New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail
Main Street (State Route 49) and
South Avenue
Shiloh
Cumberland County
New Jersey

HABS No NJ-1153

HABS
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

NOYES SERVICE CENTER
(Gulf Station)

HABS No. NJ-1153

Location: Main Street (State Route 49) and South Avenue, Shiloh, Cumberland County, New Jersey

Significance: One of few remaining area automotive service centers dating from the first half of the twentieth century, Noyes' vernacular store-and-pumps is typically located at the intersection of two busy county routes at the once-crossroads town of Shiloh.

Description: The main store is a two-story, frame, rectangular block with pyramidal roof covered with asphalt shingles. The first-floor facade is composed of a series of display windows and off-center entrance with double glazed doors; it is covered by shallow, hipped, shed roof. On the second floor, the fenestration is limited to two pairs of one-over-one-light double hung sash.

Adjacent to the older late nineteenth- or early twentieth-century store is an early twentieth-century masonry auto-service structure with two large bays and a single pedestrian door. The roof of this building is presumably flat or sloped, hidden by the plain parapet.

History: The town of Shiloh--once called Cohansey Corners--lies in Hopewell and Stow Creek townships, part of a survey by Dr. James Wass that was subsequently purchased by Robert Ayers, a Seventh-Day Baptist. Ayers laid out lots and sold them to other Seventh-Day Baptists, and the town has remained affiliated with this sect. The church was organized as early as 1737, and Shiloh became a nucleus for its followers. A post office opened here in 1841. The Union Academy, with a curriculum oriented toward agriculture, opened in 1849. In the late nineteenth century, several canneries here employed local residents.

Noyes Service Center is typical of those curbside filling stations of the 1920s where pumps were located "along streets in front of grocery, hardware and other stores which, carrying household petroleum projects, had expanded into gasoline sales."

Sources:

Jakle, John A. "The American Gasoline Station." Journal of American Culture. Spring 1978.

Sebold, Kimherly, and Sara Amy Leach. Historic Themes and Resources within the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail: Southern New Jersey and the Delaware Bay. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, 1991.

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